

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the present amendment is respectfully requested.

The Specification has been objected to. The Specification has been amended as suggested by the Examiner.

Claims 1-4 and 8-10 have been rejected as anticipated by Emeneth et al., US Pub. 2002/0029650. Claims 1 and 10 have been rejected as anticipated by Schuler, DE 299 10 997.

Claim 3 has been canceled without prejudice. Amended claim 1 recites the clamp element at least partly encompassing a radial outer surface of said sheathing (Fig. 2), the clamp element having a first latching element, the decorative element having a second latching element formed in one piece with the decorative element, the first and second latching elements establishing a latching connection between the clamp element and the decorative element (canceled claim 3).

Emeneth et al., Schuler, and the other art of record do not disclose a steering wheel with these and the other claimed features. Claim 1, as well as claims 2, 4, and 8-10 which depend from claim 1, are in condition for allowance.

New claim 11 recites the limitations of unamended claim 1 and the clamp element engaging and at least partly extending around a radial outer surface of the sheathing, the clamp element also extending around the skeleton (Fig. 2).

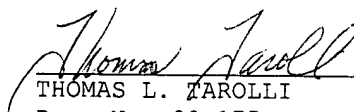
Emeneth et al., Schuler, and the other art of record do not disclose a steering wheel with this and the other claimed features. Claim 11 is in condition for allowance.

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In view of the foregoing, allowance of the above-identified application is respectfully requested.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in the fees for this amendment to our Deposit Account No. 20-0090.

Respectfully submitted,


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